

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 023912

NODIS

FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT JERUSALEM 297 ACTIONSECSTATE INFO
CAIRO TEL AVIV JAN 30

QUOTE S E C R E T JERUSALEM 0297

EXDIS (HANDLE AS NODIS)

FOR INR - SAUNDERS FROM ATHERTON

U.S. DEL NO. 29

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, XF, US

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN POSITION ON COMPLETING WORK ON DECLARATION
OF PRINCIPLES

1. FROM MY MEETING THIS MORNING WITH DAYAN (SEPTTEL)
AND DISCUSSION WITH HIM AT DINNER LAST NIGHT IT IS
CLEAR THE HE IS EXTREMELY WORRIED THAT SADAT
VISIT WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT OF EFFORT TO COMPLETE
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WORK ON DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. HE FEARS THAT
SADAT WILL GO OFF ON SOME NEW TACK THAT WILL REQUIRE
STARTING ALL OVER AGAIN FROM SCRATCH AND THAT
PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN ACHIEVED AS RESULT OF THE
SECRETARY'S EFFORTS IN JERUSALEM AND MY FOLLOW-ON
TALKS WILL BE LOST. WHEN YOU RECEIVE REPORT OF
CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE IN AMMAN, YOU WILL SEE

THAT THE ONE POINT ON WHICH THERE WAS MOST UNANIMITY WAS THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING AGREEMENT ON A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES TO DEMONSTRATE THAT SOMETHING CONCRETE HAS COME OUT OF SADAT'S INITIATIVE.

2. THIS CONCERN OF DAYAN'S IS A PART OF HIS MORE GENERAL CONCERN, WHICH HAS RUN THROUGH ALL OF OUR TALKS, THAT HE HAS NO SURE SENSE OF WHERE SADAT IS GOING AND THAT SADAT HIMSELF MAY NOT KNOW, WITH RESULT THAT SADAT IS SUBJECT TO ERRATIC CHANGES OF COURSE, DROPPING OLD IDEAS AND TRYING OUT NEW ONES SBEFORE THE FORMER CAN BE FULLY TESTED AND EXPLORED. DAYAN ASKED LAST NIGHT WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO PERSUADE EGYPTIANS TO TRY TO COMPLETE THE DECLARATION BEFORE SADAT'S VISIT TO THE U.S., EVEN IF THIS REQUIRED MY RETURNING ONE MORE TIME TO JERUSALEM. AFTER SLEEPING ON THIS IDEA, I TOLD DAYAN THIS MORNING THAT I WOULD HAVE BETTER SENSE OF PRESENT EGYPTIAN VIEWS ON DECLARATION WHEN I GET TO CAIRO BUT THAT I DOUBTED IT WAS REALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT THEY WILL BE PREPARED TO COMPLETE THE DECLARATION BEFORE SADAT'S MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT. SHORT OF THAT, HOWEVER, I THINK IT WOULD BE WORTH TRYING TO GET AN EXPLICIT UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EGYPTIANS THAT SERIOUS WORK ON THE DECLARATION WILL CONTINUE AFTER THE SADAT VISIT WITH A VIEW TO
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COMPLETING IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE HELPFUL IF I COULD BE INSTRUCTED BEFORE MY TALKS BEGIN IN CAIRO TUESDAY MORNING TO SEEK SUCH A COMMITMENT. I WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT THIS POINT COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR PRESIDENT'S TALKS WITH SADAT. NEWLIN. UNQUOTE VANCE

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